handmade paper, bee keeping, leather, silk khadi, cane and bamboo, medicinal plants, plam gur, fruit and vegetable processing, rural engineering etc. Similarly, such clusters are also being identified and assisted by SIDO, SIDBI and NABARD. The cluster approach is aimed at helping cottage industries emerge stronger and competitive in facing the emerging challenges.

Setting-up of Mini Tool Room

886. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has sent a proposal to set up 'Mini Tool Room' one each at Hubli and Harihar under the centrally sponsored scheme to impart technical education to the youth in the State;

(b) if so, the details of the Central scheme and the number of such centres set up in the country, State-wise;

(c) the views of Government in respect of the State's proposal; and

(d) time frame by when the proposal is likely to be accorded approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The proposals for setting up Mini Tool Room and Training Centre at Hubli and Harihar, Karnataka have been received from Government of Karnataka through its implementing agency *i.e.,* Government Tool Room and Training Centre, Bangalore.

(b) The Central Scheme to render financial assistance to States for setting up of Mini Tool Rooms is yet to be finalised and as such no such Centres have so far been set up

(c) and (d) The proposals received from Government of Karnataka will be considered after the proposed Central Scheme is finalised.